

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims supersedes all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire comprising a cylindrical crown portion, and a pair of sidewalls and a pair of bead portions, the sidewalls and the bead portions being continuous from both sides of the crown portion, in which a decorative portion having tops and bottoms continue with each other thereon is arranged on at least one of the sidewalls, tops and bottoms of the decorative portion being in a direction of protruding from the sidewall of the tire,

wherein protruding portions higher than the tops of the decorative portion are provided, the protruding portions including at least one of a character and a mark, and bottoms of joined portions of the protruding portions and the decorative portion ~~and/or~~ ~~of the protruding portions~~ are higher than the bottoms of the decorative portion.

2. (Previously Presented) The pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein a high decorative portion having bottoms higher than the bottoms of the decorative portion and the tops continuing with each other thereon is provided on the joined portion of the protruding portions.

3. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire comprising a cylindrical crown portion, and a pair of sidewalls and a pair of bead portions, the sidewalls and the bead portions being continuous from both sides of the crown portion, in which a decorative portion having tops and bottoms continue with each other thereon is arranged on at least one of the sidewalls, tops and bottoms of the decorative portion being in a direction of protruding from the sidewall of the tire,

wherein protruding portions higher than the tops of the decorative portion are provided, the protruding portions including at least one of a character and a mark, and flat portions higher than the bottoms of the decorative portion are provided on bottoms between the protruding portions ~~adjacent to each other~~ and the decorative portion.

4. (Original) The pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein a ratio of a width of each of the flat portions is 40 to 70% with respect to a width between ends of top surfaces of the protruding portions.

5. (Previously Presented) The pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein a corner region connecting the flat portions and each protruding portion is formed of a round portion.

6. (Original) The pneumatic tire according to claim 5, wherein the round portion has a radius of 0.2 to 1.0 mm.

7. (Currently Amended) The pneumatic tire according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein a height of the bottom of the joined portion of any of the protruding portion and decorative portion ~~and of the protruding portions~~ is set within a range of 30% to 70% with respect to a height to each top surface of the protruding portions.